CLAIMS

1. A broadcast router, comprising:

at least one input chassis (401), each having a plurality of input cards (410) and an expansion card (415), the plurality of input cards for initially receiving data into the broadcast router, and the expansion card for respectively receiving the data from the plurality of input cards and arranging the data for transfer within the broadcast router; and

at least one output chassis (450), each having a matrix card (465) and a plurality of output cards (460), the matrix card for receiving the data from all of the at least one input chassis and for routing the data to appropriate ones of the plurality of output cards, and the plurality of output cards for respectively receiving the data from the matrix card and for outputting the data external to the broadcast router,

wherein each of the at least one input chassis is without any output cards including the plurality of output cards, and each of the at least one output chassis is without any input cards including the plurality of input cards.

2. The broadcast router of claim 1, wherein a number of inputs to the at least one input chassis is different than a number of outputs from the at least one output chassis.

3. The broadcast router of claim 1, further comprising a control card (499), disposed in at least one of the at least one input chassis and the at least one output chassis, for providing support protocols to change input/output assignments of the data.

4. The broadcast router of claim 1, wherein the expansion card (415) provides support protocols to change input/output assignments of the data.

5. The broadcast router of claim 1, wherein the matrix card (465) provides support protocols to change input/output assignments of the data.

6. The broadcast router of claim 1, wherein the plurality of input cards (410) condition the data subsequent to an initial receipt thereof.

7. The broadcast router of claim 1, wherein the expansion card (415) arranges the data using time division multiplexing.

8. The broadcast router of claim 1, wherein the matrix card (465) conditions the data prior to outputting the data external to the broadcast router.

9. A broadcast router, comprising:

at least one input chassis (401), each having a plurality of input cards (410) and an expansion card (415), the plurality of input cards for receiving and conditioning data, and the expansion card for respectively receiving the data from the plurality of input cards and arranging the data using time division multiplexing for transfer within the broadcast router;

at least one output chassis (450), each having a matrix card (465) and a plurality of output cards (460), the matrix card for receiving the data from all of the at least one input chassis and for routing the data to appropriate ones of the plurality of

output cards, and the plurality of output cards for respectively receiving the data from the matrix card and for outputting the data external to the broadcast router; and

a control card (499), disposed within at least one of the at least one input chassis and the at least one output chassis, for providing support protocols to change input/output assignments of the data,

wherein a number of inputs to the input chassis is different than a number of outputs from the output chassis, each of the at least one input chassis is without any output cards including the plurality of output cards, and each of the at least one output chassis is without any input cards including the plurality of input cards.

10. The broadcast router of claim 9, wherein the matrix card (465) conditions the data prior to outputting the data external to the broadcast router.